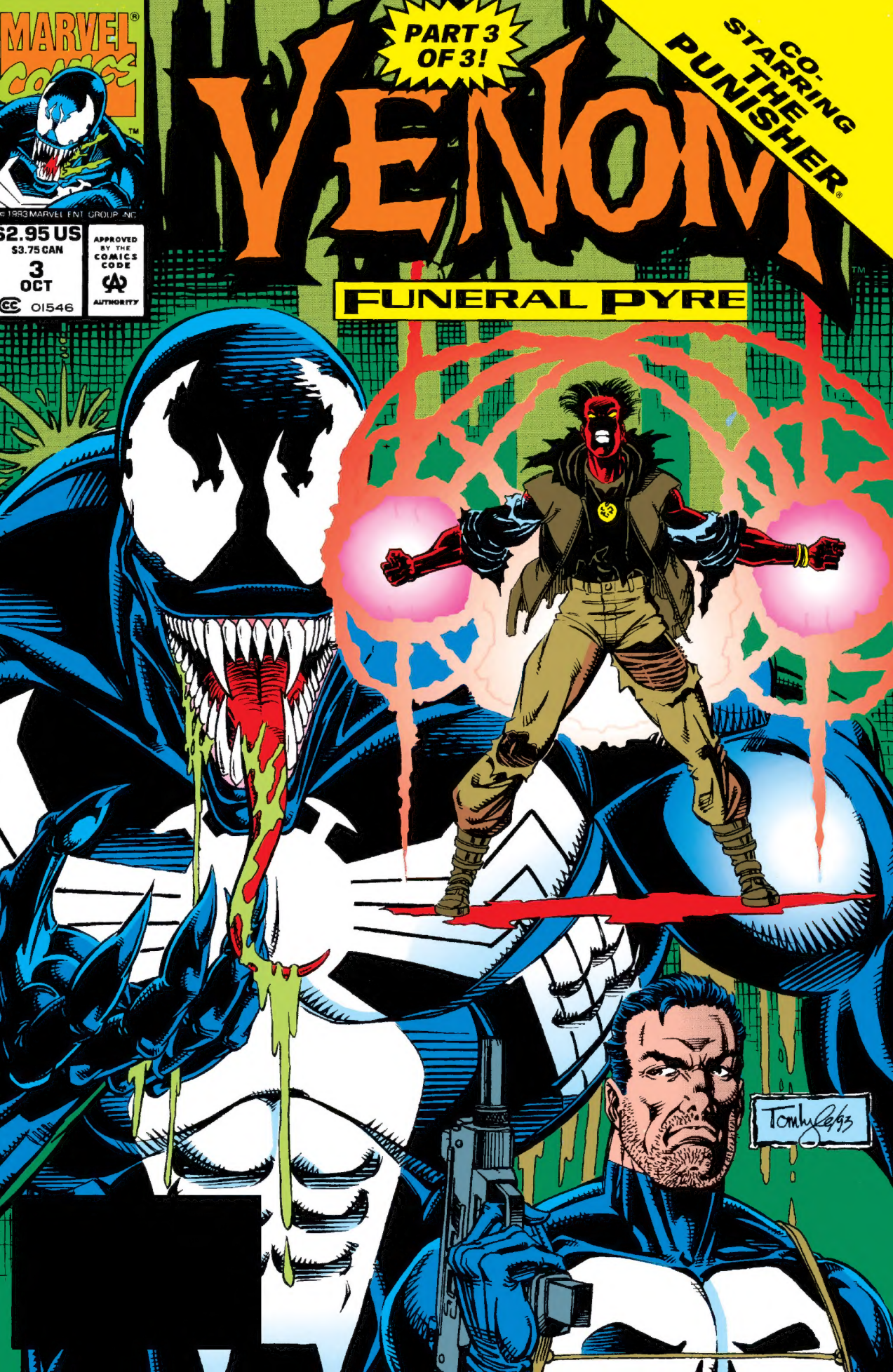
MARVEL COMICS
PART 3 OF 3!
CO-STARRING THE PUNISHER
VENOM
FUNERAL PYRE
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STAN LEE PRESENTS

VENOM: FUNERAL PYRE PART THREE:

FEED THE PYRE

CARL POTTS
WRITER

TOM LYLE
LAYOUTS

JOE RUBINSTEIN
FINISHES

RICHARD STARKINGS
LETTERS

ED LAZELLARI
COLORS

DANNY FINGEROTH
EDITOR

TOM DEFALCO
RECOVERING NICELY

STOP IT! WE CANNOT... TAKE YOUR MICROWAVE BLASTS!

WE CAME TO SAVE YOU!

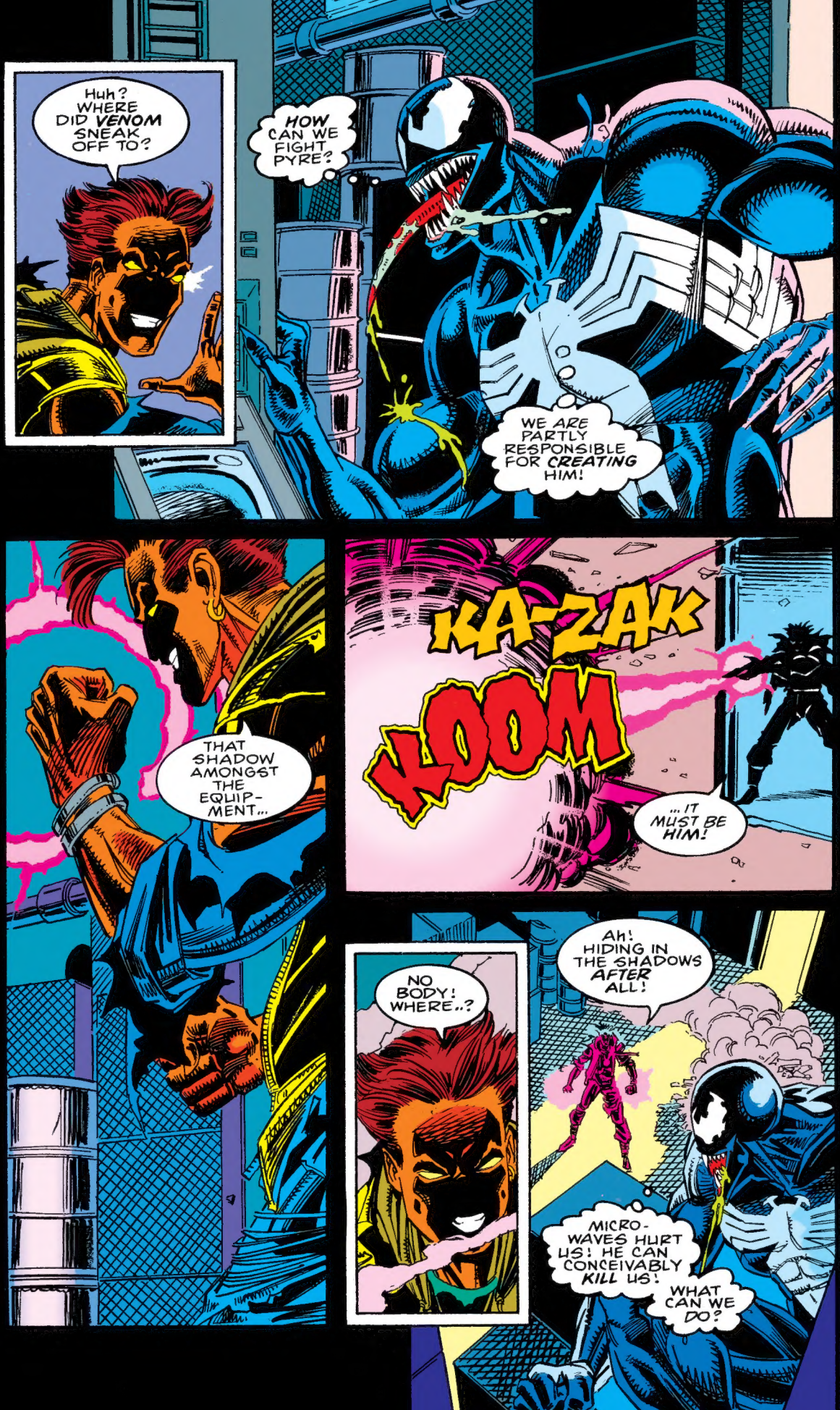
YOU CAME TOO LATE!!

I WAS FORCED TO KILL BY THOSE LIFE-LESS AT YOUR FEET -- BECAUSE YOU DID NOT RESCUE ME IN TIME!

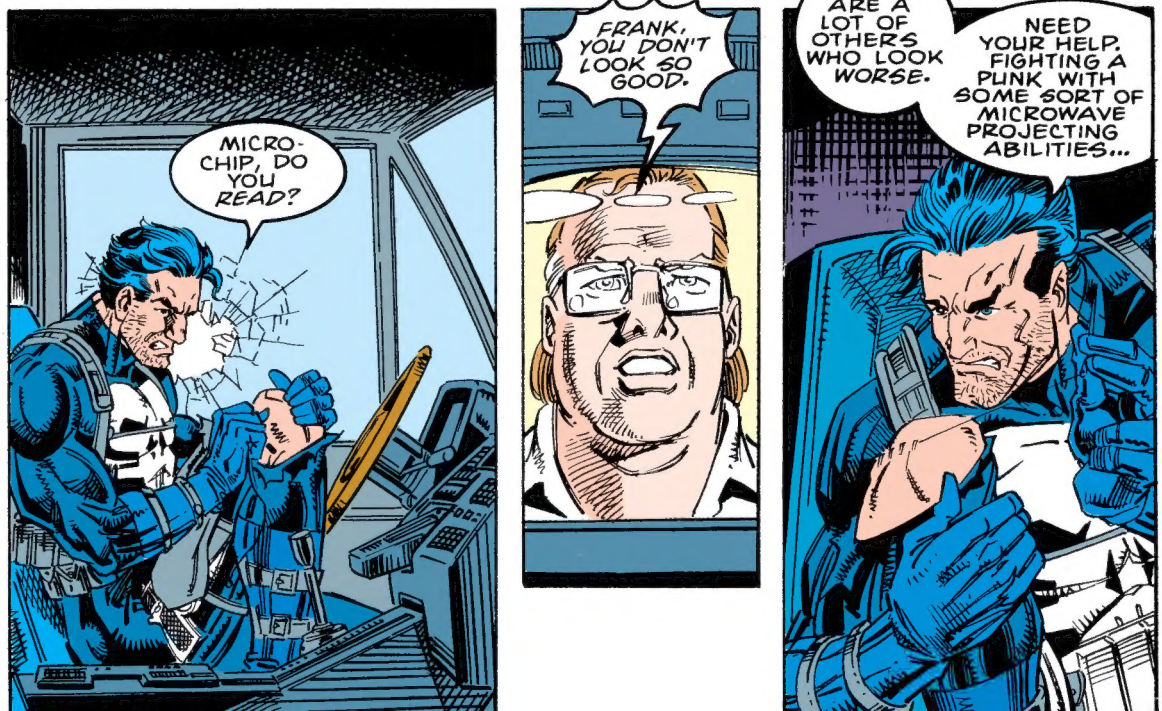
UNGH!

LOOK AT YOUR CREATION, VENOM!
I HAD TO TAKE THE CHANCE THAT THIS ABANDONED HYDRA*EQUIPMENT WOULD EMPOWER ME -- GIVE ME THE MEANS TO PROTECT MYSELF!
SHOT AT BY GANG THUGS, HUNTED BY THE PUNISHER -- I HAD NO CHOICE...
*SUPER-SCIENTIFIC CRIMINAL ORGANIZATION. -- DANNY
...BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T SHOW UP ON TIME! NOW BURN BY THE PYRE YOU CREATED!
KRAAK
Full auto firepower may come in handy.
PUNISHER! YOU WERE SET ON KILLING ME!
KAZAK
YOU WON'T ESCAPE MY VENGEANCE!
Console's blocking blast, but micro-waves are sparking off the metal!

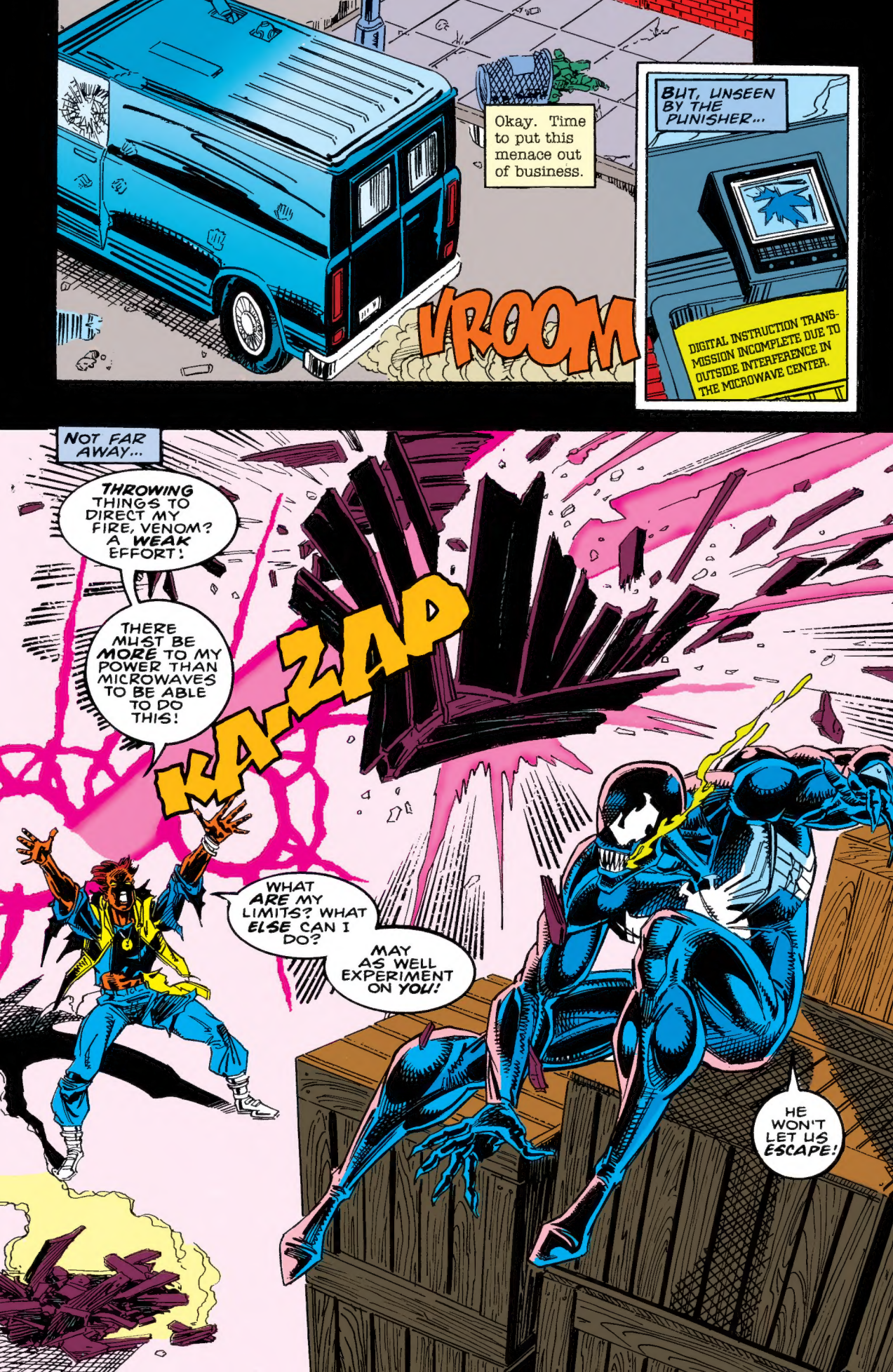
WHILE THE PYRE IS FOCUSED ON PUNISHER, WE MUST ESCAPE... THINK!
BRAKABRAKA
Time to return fire.
WHAT--?! CAN'T DODGE IN TIME!
I'M DEAD -- NO--
FZZ
FZZ
BRAKABRAKA
HA! THE LEAD MELTED-- VAPORIZED BEFORE IT COULD HIT ME!


Huh? WHERE DID VENOM SNEAK OFF TO?
HOW CAN WE FIGHT PYRE?
WE ARE PARTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR CREATING HIM!
THAT SHADOW AMONGST THE EQUIP-MENT...
KA-ZAK
KOOM
...IT MUST BE HIM!
NO BODY! WHERE..?
Ah! HIDING IN THE SHADOWS AFTER ALL!
MICRO-WAVES HURT US! HE CAN CONCEIVABLY KILL US!
WHAT CAN WE DO?

Can't be effective until I get some intelligence on this guy...
...and patch up this leg.
Hope the body count of killer punks is worth it.
This battle's taking a big toll on me.
Microchip's not going to like the shape the battlevan's in.
UNG!
Leg doesn't like this position.
Computers and security systems damaged. Hope they've got enough capability left to do the job.


MICRO-CHIP, DO YOU READ?
FRANK, YOU DON'T LOOK SO GOOD.
THERE ARE A LOT OF OTHERS WHO LOOK WORSE.
NEED YOUR HELP. FIGHTING A PUNK WITH SOME SORT OF MICROWAVE PROJECTING ABILITIES...

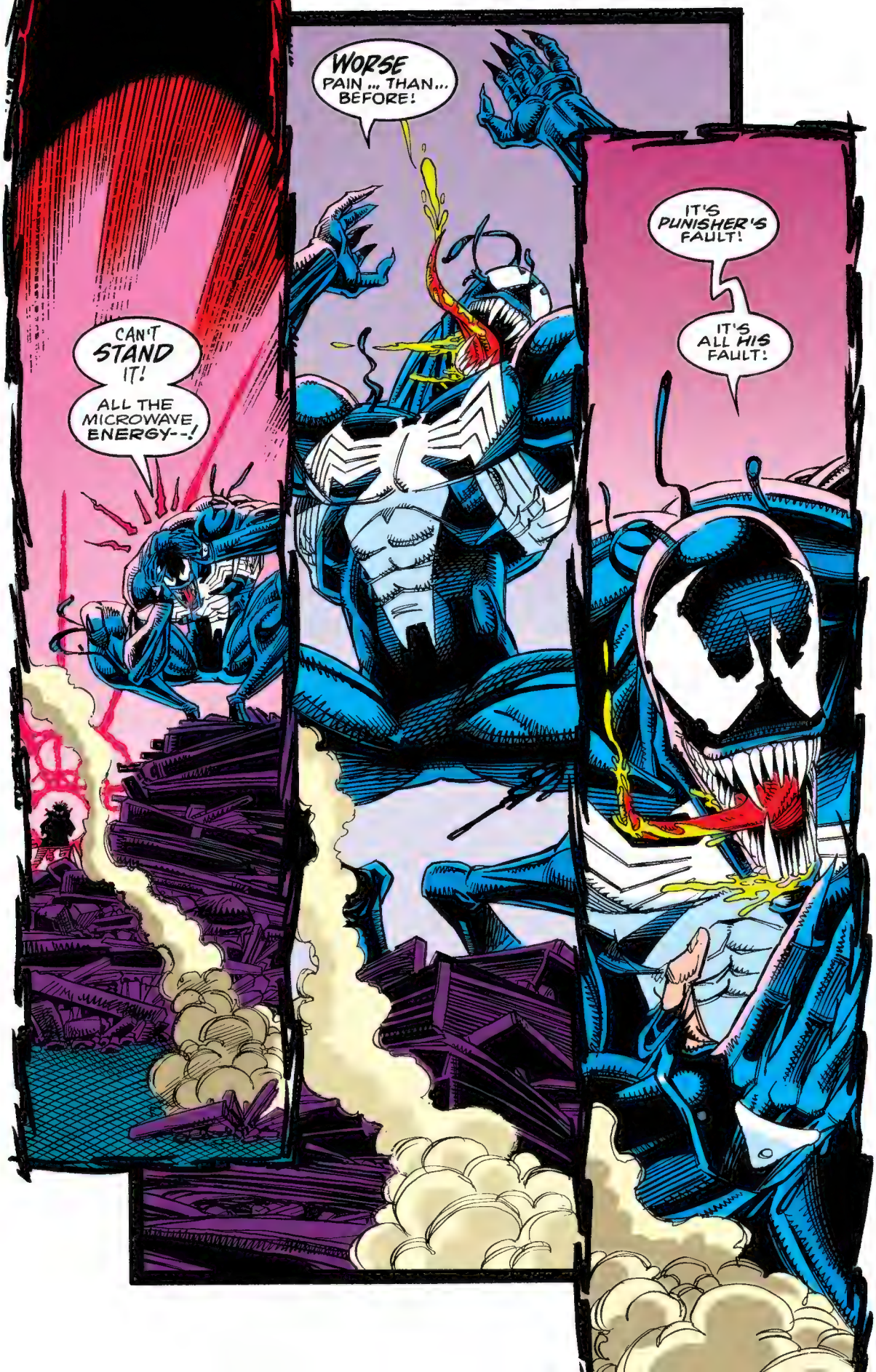
... GOT ANY SUGGESTIONS?
Hmmm. OKAY. I THINK I'VE GOT IT.
HERE'S HOW TO PROGRAM THE VAN'S COMPUTER TO SENSE THE OFFENSIVE ENERGY WAVELENGTH...
...AND DIRECT THE TRANSDUCERS TO PUT OUT A MIRROR IMAGE WAVE-LENGTH.
THIS TECHNIQUE WORKS IN ANTI-NOISE TECH-NOLOGY.
THEORETICALLY, IT SHOULD WORK IN THE MICRO-WAVE SPECTRUM, TOO.
HOW'S THE VAN HOLDING UP, FRANK?
TIME'S TIGHT, MICRO, GOT TO RUN. THANKS.
What's simple for Micro or the computer is a severe challenge to me.
Hope I'm doing this program correctly.


Okay. Time to put this menace out of business.
VROOM
BUT, UNSEEN BY THE PUNISHER...
DIGITAL INSTRUCTION TRANSMISSION INCOMPLETE DUE TO OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE IN THE MICROWAVE CENTER.
NOT FAR AWAY...
THROWING THINGS TO DIRECT MY FIRE, VENOM? A WEAK EFFORT!
THERE MUST BE MORE TO MY POWER THAN MICROWAVES TO BE ABLE TO DO THIS!
KA-ZAP
WHAT ARE MY LIMITS? WHAT ELSE CAN I DO?
MAY AS WELL EXPERIMENT ON YOU!
HE WON'T LET US ESCAPE!

WHA?! ME?! THAT'S ME?
YOU'VE TURNED ME INTO... INTO...
KZAP
...A MONSTER!
YOU'LL PAY WITH YOUR LIFE FOR THIS, VENOM!
WE CANNOT KEEP THROWING OBSTACLES AT THE BLASTS FOREVER!
PYRE WILL NOT LET US ESCAPE!
KZZAKZ
IF WE HAVE TO -- IF WE CAN -- KILL OUR ACCIDENTAL CREATION, WE WILL MAKE THE PUNISHER PAY!
YOU'RE CORNERED, VENOM! I'M GOING TO COOK YOU TO THE BONE!
HAVE TO DO SOME-THING...

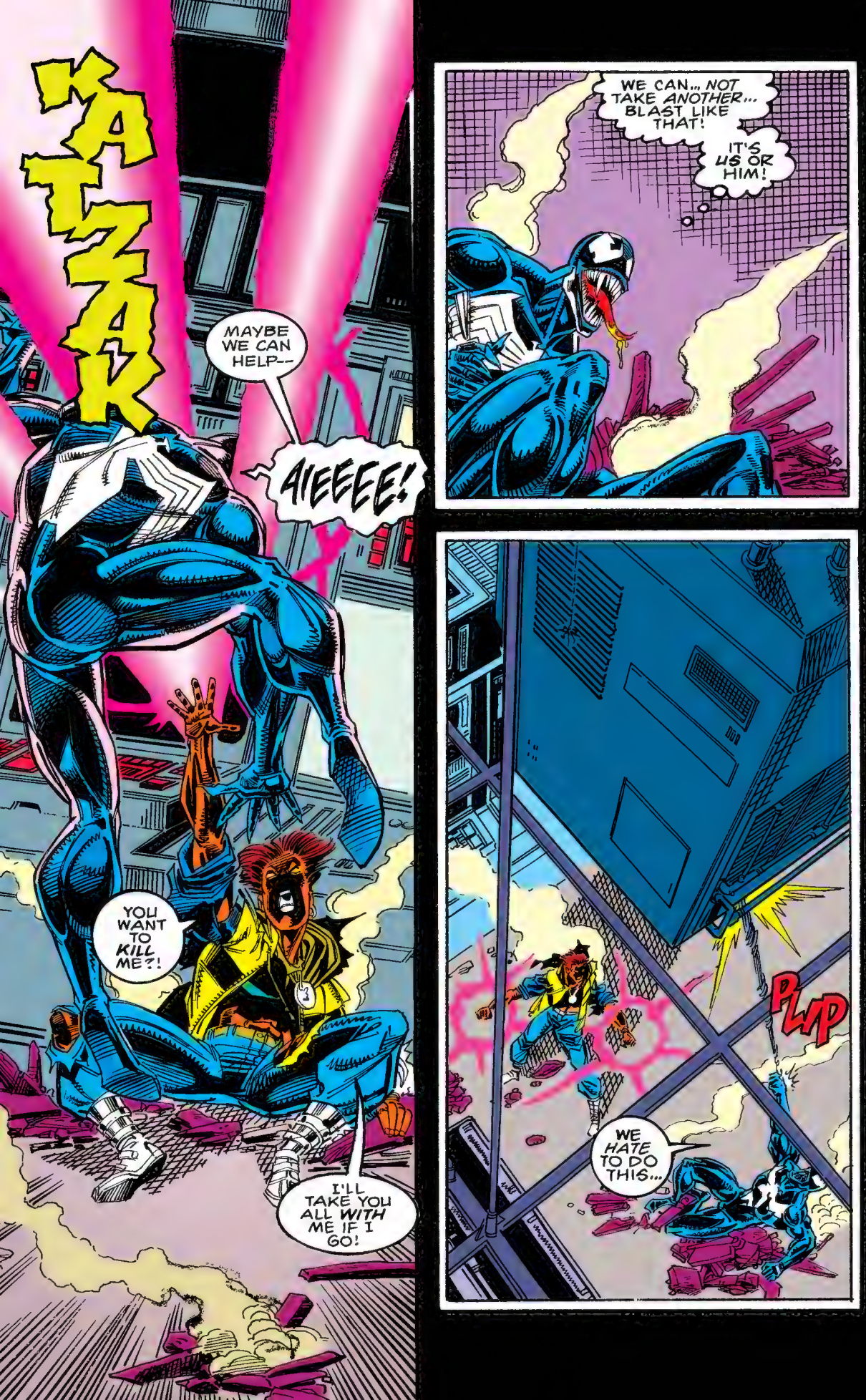
...NOW...?!
PUNISHER!
KAWHAM

Van's stuck.
Shouldn't be a problem if this next move works.
Anti-wave technology should cancel out Pyre's microwave blasts.
AIEARGHH! WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO ME!
This isn't right.
The anti-waves should cancel Pyre's energy.
Instead, Pyre's power is being amplified. Must've screwed up Micro's instructions.
Surroundings sparking -- igniting. Now what?


CAN'T STAND IT!
ALL THE MICROWAVE ENERGY--!
WORSE PAIN ... THAN... BEFORE!
IT'S PUNISHER'S FAULT!
IT'S ALL HIS FAULT!

WE WILL... FINISH...
SKA RAKH
...WHAT WE... STARTED EARLIER!
TUNK
YOU...
CAN THE $#%@£, VENOM...
...AND LOOK AT WHAT'S COMING AT US!
CLICK!
BACK OFF AND PRAY YOU DIDN'T TRASH ALL THE CONTROLS.
THOOM
THOOM
THOOM

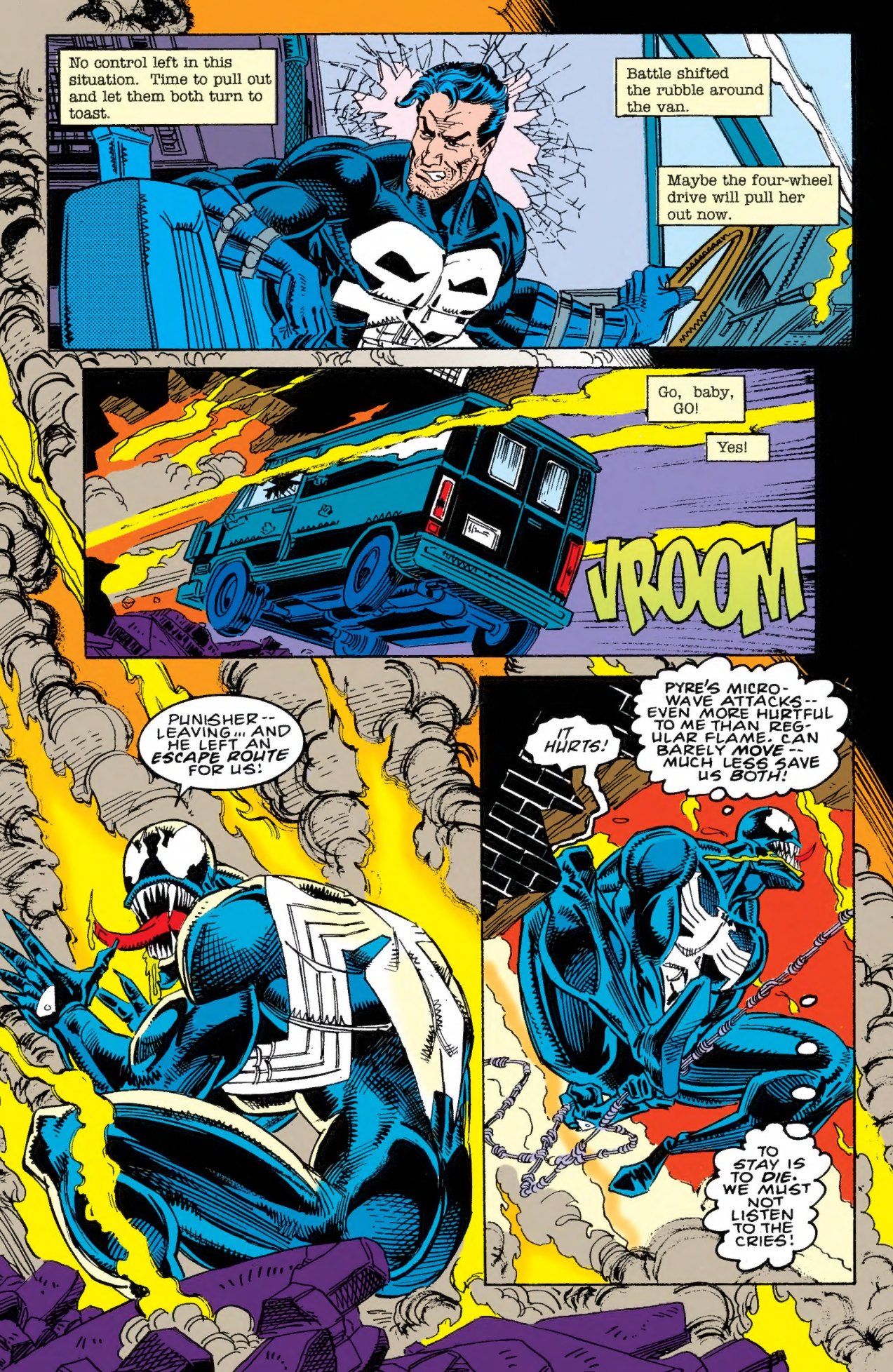
FWAKOOM
FWAKOOM
FWAKOOM
HAINGH!
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
GRENADES?! YOU MAY HAVE KILLED HIM!
NOTHING GETS PAST YOU.


KA-ZAK
MAYBE WE CAN HELP--
AIEEEE!
YOU WANT TO KILL ME?!
I'LL TAKE YOU ALL WITH ME IF I GO!
WE CAN... NOT TAKE ANOTHER... BLAST LIKE THAT!
IT'S US OR HIM!
PLAP
WE HATE TO DO THIS...

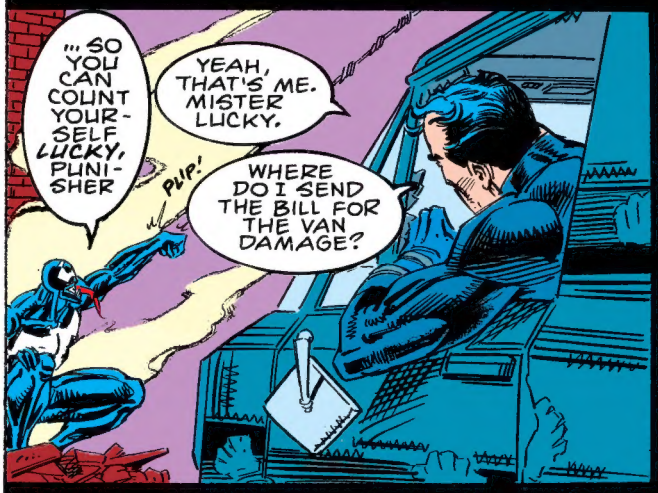
SKREEK
KARASH
TZZZP
MY LEGS!
...FORGIVE US!
NO!

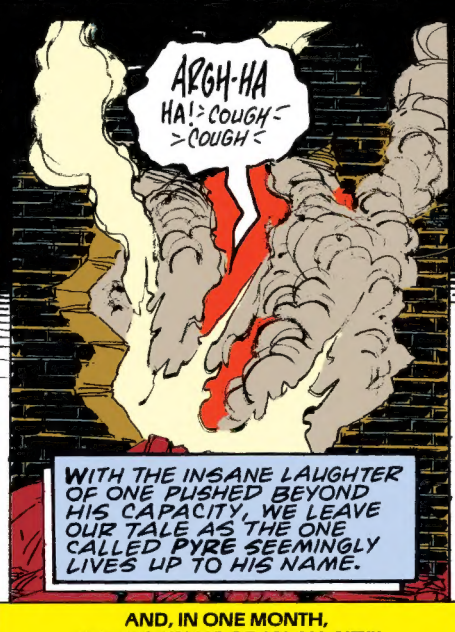
TURN ME INTO A MONSTER!
CRIPPLE ME!
IT CAN'T GET MUCH WORSE...
...COME ON! LET'S FINISH IT!
WE... WE... ARE SO SORRY!
PROMISE NOT TO ATTACK US AGAIN AND WE WILL FREE YOU!
I'D RATHER FRY AND TAKE YOU WITH ME!
ALL THE SMALL FIRES -- GROWN INTO ONE BIG UN-CONTROLLABLE BLAZE!
SETTING OFF EXPLOSIONS OF VOLATILE CHEMICALS AND EQUIP-MENT!
PYRE, THERE IS NO TIME TO ARGUE! WE MUST...
KA
BLOOM

KA-POW
ARGH!
FLAMING DEBRIS--FALLING ALL OVER!
IN HIS RAGE--HE'S MAKING THINGS WORSE FOR HIMSELF!
MUST TRY TO SEND A TENDRIL THROUGH THE WALL OF FLAME.
WE'RE RESPONSIBLE. WE HAVE TO SAVE HIM!
AHHHE
HAVE TO PULL BACK! FLAMES TOO THICK FOR US TO STAND!
WHAT HAVE WE DONE?!
I'M BURNING!


No control left in this situation. Time to pull out and let them both turn to toast.
Battle shifted the rubble around the van.
Maybe the four-wheel drive will pull her out now.
Go, baby, GO!
Yes!
VROOM
PUNISHER-- LEAVING... AND HE LEFT AN ESCAPE ROUTE FOR US!
IT HURTS!
PYRE'S MICRO-WAVE ATTACKS-- EVEN MORE HURTFUL TO ME THAN REG-ULAR FLAME. CAN BARELY MOVE-- MUCH LESS SAVE US BOTH!
TO STAY IS TO DIE. WE MUST NOT LISTEN TO THE CRIES!

YOU'RE TO BLAME FOR THIS DISASTER, PUNISHER!
YOUR PSYCHOTIC OBSESSION DELAYED US FROM RESCUING THE YOUNG MAN IN TIME!
ENOUGH OF THIS *!%@!
YOU WANT PSYCHOTIC?! LOOK IN THE MIRROR!
HE WAS NEVER INNOCENT OR HE WOULD NEVER HAVE KILLED!
WAK
IT WOULD'VE BEEN BETTER IF I KILLED HIM BEFORE HE SHOT ANYONE --
--OR TURNED INTO THAT PYRE CREATURE.
WE HAVE HEARD ENOUGH OF YOUR RANTINGS!
YOU MUST PAY FOR YOUR PART IN THIS TRAGEDY!





WITH THE INSANE LAUGHTER OF ONE PUSHED BEYOND HIS CAPACITY, WE LEAVE OUR TALE AS THE ONE CALLED PYRE SEEMINGLY LIVES UP TO HIS NAME.

AND, IN ONE MONTH,
THE BEGINNING OF AN *ALL-NEW*
VENOM LIMITED SERIES,
FEATURING THE V-MAN
AND THE X-MEN'S ENEMY:

JUGGERNAUT!

BE HERE THEN FOR

VENOM: THE MADNESS #1

(IT'S BY ANN NOCENTI,
KELLEY JONES & JOHN BEATTY!)